

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 07368 241551Z

11
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 IO-13 /092 W
----- 100506

R 241440Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4991
INFO USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL IZMIR
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

UNCLAS ANKARA 7368

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: PFORN PINS TU IZ
SUBJECT: IRAQI HELICOPTERS WOUND FIVE TURKS IN HAKKARI

1. ACCORDING TO REPORTS ON ANKARA RADIO AND IN THE PRESS,
FOUR TURKISH GENDARMES AND ONE VILLAGER WERE WOUNDED SEPT 23
BY THREE IRAQI MILITARY OR GENDARMERIE HELICOPTERS WHICH HAD
CROSSED INTO TURKISH AIRSPACE. THE INCIDENT TOOK PLACE AT
THE TURKISH GENDARMERIE POST AT UZUMLU VILLAGE IN SOUTHERN
HAKKARI PROVINCE. ACCORDING TO THE REPORTS, AN IRAQI
HELICOPTER CROSSED THE BORDER INTO TURKISH AIRSPACE AT
ABOUT NOON SEPT 23, HEADING TOWARD UZUMLU, BUT TURNED BACK
AFTER WARNING SHOTS WERE FIRED BY THE GENDARMERIE POST, WHICH
IS LOCATED ABOUT 500 METERS FROM THE IRAQI BORDER. TWO OR
THREE HOURS LATER, THREE IRAQI HELICOPTERS REPORTEDLY CROSSED
THE BORDER AND OPENED FIRE ON THE POST. THE FIVE TURKS
WERE WOUNDED DURING THE ENSUING EXCHANGE OF FIRE. MOST
MASS CIRCULATION DAILIES CARRIED FRONT PAGE ACCOUNTS WHICH,
WITH THE EXCEPTION OF CUMHURIYET'S, WERE FAIRLY LOW KEY.
(CUMHURIYET'S ACCOUNT, UNDER LARGE HEADLINE, LEFT IMPRESSION

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THAT THREE-HOUR CONTINUOUS BOMBARDMENT BY IRAQI JETS HAD

TAKEN PLACE.)

2. PRIMIN DEMIREL WAS QUOTED ON AFTERNOON RADIO NEWS
SEPT 24 AS SAYING THAT HAKKARI INCIDENT WAS AN "ORDINARY
BORDER INCIDENT". BRIEF MFA ANNOUNCEMENT CONFIRMING THE
INCIDENT STATED THAT THE DIYARBAKIR GENDARMERIE COMMAND
WAS INVESTIGATING THE INCIDENT, AND MFA DEPDIR FOR MIDDLE
EAST AND AFRICAN AFFAIRS TOLD EMBOFF THAT THE IRAQI GOVT
HAD BEEN ASKED FOR AN EXPLANATION.

MACOMBER

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Disposition Event:
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